HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND INNOVATION COMMITTEE

Interim Report released today on Research Training in Australian Universities

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Innovation today released an Interim Report from its inquiry into research training and research workforce issues in Australian universities.

"This interim report lists key recommendations arising from the Committee's inquiry into research training and research workforce issues," Committee Chair Ms Vamvakinou said.

"The Committee received 105 submissions and undertook public hearings in a number of capital cities and regional centres across Australia.

"Throughout the inquiry, several key issues were repeatedly raised by those presenting to the Committee. The recommendations contained in this interim report directly respond to many of these key issues."

The recommendations released in the interim report include increasing Australia's gross expenditure on research and development, raising the PhD stipend from its current level, which has been projected to place students at the level of the poverty line, and funding the full cost of research at Australian universities and research institutions.

"This interim report and its recommendations are a strong endorsement of support for Australian universities and research graduates who play a vital role in driving innovation in Australia," Ms Vamvakinou said.

The interim report will be made available on the Committee's website at http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/isi/research/index.htm

Further details, including the terms of reference, submissions, membership of the Committee, and transcripts of public hearings can be obtained on the Committee's website at www.aph.gov.au/isi

For media comment: contact the Committee Chair Ms Maria Vamvakinou on 0417 541 465.

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